

REGISTRATION DEADLINE Wed., Jan.28

Capacity limited! Register now!

PRINT THIS FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK

Cost: \$75; students \$15 (registration fee includes lunch and resource notebook). Scholarships available. Call for details – (800) 832-9060. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

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Amount enclosed: \$ _____

*Make checks payable to **ACPP**. Be sure to enclose a separate registration form for each person attending.*

Circle your workshop preferences so we can make room assignments. Circle one letter per session.

Session 1 (9:30) A B C D E F G

Session 2 (10:45) H I J K L M

Session 3 (1:15) N O P Q R S T

_____ I need a vegetarian meal.

If you need disability-related accommodations, please e-mail pres@alarise.org or call (800) 832-9060 by Jan. 16 to ensure availability.

Mail this form with a check to “ACPP” for your registration fee before January 28 to:

ACPP
P. O. Box 1188
Montgomery, AL 36101



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Health Care Access Conference



Tues., Feb. 10, 2009
Birmingham-Southern College



www.arisecitizens.org

Knowledge, strategies & hope for a healthier Alabama ► A statewide conference presented by Arise Citizens' Policy Project, Alabama Appleseed and the Birmingham-Southern chapter of Alabama Arise and made possible by a generous grant from the Public Welfare Foundation.

Approval for continuing education contact hours by the Alabama Board of Nursing and the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners has been requested.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:15 Check-in – Norton Center; coffee, pastries

8:45 Welcome in the Great Hall

9:00 Kickoff speaker – *Claude Earl Fox, M.D., M.P.H., Executive Director, Florida Public Health Institute.* An advisor to the Obama administration and former Alabama State Health Officer reflects on the challenges ahead for health care reform in a poor state.

9:30 Workshop Session I

A. The role of schools in children's health – *Audrey Ellis, School Social Worker, Tuscaloosa; Sherry Marbury, Director of School Nursing, Ala. Dept. of Education; Lauren Veasey, Southern Education Foundation.* Student health is a key factor in school attendance and success. What are the best steps schools can take?

B. Out of the shadows: What the new Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Parity Law means for Alabama – *Andrew Sperling, National Alliance on Mental Illness.* How will the required expansion of mental health coverage affect consumers and providers?

C. Publicly Funded Coverage 101 – *Cathy Caldwell, Director, Ala. Children's Health Insurance Program; Dr. Robert Moon, Medical Director, Ala. Medicaid; Robyn James, Director, Senior Medicare Patrol, Ala. Dept. of Senior Services.* Who's eligible for what? How do the programs fit together? Who pays? Understanding the current system is the starting place for reform.

D. The economics of health care reform: How can we afford to – or *not to* – fix our broken system? *David Gross, Manager of Health and Supportive Services, AARP; Jeff Love, Director of Research, AARP.* Two national experts compare the costs of biting the bullet vs. delaying the inevitable.

E. Your three minutes: Making the most of your doctor's appointment – *Frances Ford, Executive Director, Sowing Seeds of Hope, Perry County; Stephen W. Russell, M.D., UAB School of Medicine.* A patient advocate and a family doctor offer a practical (and humorous) look at communication challenges and solutions.

F. Ignorance kills: Alabama's HIV/AIDS statistics, trends and what we can do to reduce infection. *Randy Jones, Manager, HIV/AIDS Prevention Technical Assistance and Data Quality, Ala. Dept. of Public Health.* In the epidemic's third decade, Alabama is the new front line.

G. Legislative Advocacy 101 – *Ron Gilbert and Pres Harris, Arise.* Alabama's lawmakers will play a key role in health care reform. How does the Legislature work, and at what points can we make a difference?

10:30 Break

10:45 Workshop Session II

H. Get plugged in! Using information technology to improve health care access and quality – *Cathy Caldwell, Director, Ala. Children's Health Insurance Program; Kim Davis-Allen, Ala. Medicaid; Kathy Johnson, Director, Ala. Broadband Initiative, Office of Gov. Bob Riley; Sharon Waltz, Synergy Medical Solutions.* Alabama is leading the way on electronic medical records and other innovations.

I. Improving health care behaviors – *Dr. Suzy Davies, Dept. of Health Behavior, UAB School of Public Health.* From smoking to diet to substance abuse, personal choices affect health – and health care costs. What shapes these choices, and what role should they play in reform?

J. Ties that bind: The role of faith communities in health care access – *Rev. Ronnie Williams, Congregations for Public Health, Birmingham.* A local partnership of churches, hospitals and health researchers is breaking new ground in public health outreach.

K. Is there a doctor in the house? Alabama's health care provider shortage – *Carolyn Bern, Office of Primary Care and Rural Health; Cal Dodson, M.D., Birmingham; Lacy Gibson, Alabama Hospital Association.* Our medical workforce is shrinking as demand rises. How should Alabama respond?

L. Money Follows the Person: Expanding home- and community-based long-term care can improve lives and save Medicaid millions of dollars – *James Tucker, Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program.* How can Alabama break its bias toward institutionalized care?

M. Tax reform 101 – *Kimble Forrister and Chris Sanders, Arise.* Any hope of budget adequacy for health care will depend on modernizing our tax system.

11:45 Lunch in Great Hall Room A

12:15 Lunch panel: Prospects for federal health care reform – *Judy Solomon, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Sara Rosenbaum, George Washington University; Susan Sherry, Community Catalyst, Boston.*

1:00 Break

1:15 Workshop Session III

N. Alabama's infant mortality challenge – *Janice Smiley, Director, State Perinatal Program, Ala. Dept. of Public Health.* What's causing the disturbing rise in infant deaths and what can we do about it?

O. Mental illness and physical health – *Richard E. Powers, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology and Pathology, UAB School of Medicine.* Causes and possible solutions for the shortened life expectancy of persons with serious mental illness: Developing a plan for Alabama.

P. Listen and be heard – *Pres Harris, Arise.* Listening sessions like this around the state are helping Arise identify barriers to health care access and changes that could make a real difference. Come join the conversation!

Q. How can more adults get health coverage? *Ann Huckstep, Senior Health Care Attorney, Adams Reese, Birmingham; Andy Lemons, Health Care Attorney, Baker Donelson, Birmingham; Nichelle Williams, Alabama Appleseed; John Pickens, Executive Director, Alabama Appleseed.* What are the best public, private, employer-based and other options for covering Alabama's 600,000 uninsured adults?

R. Safe passage: Transitioning children with special needs to adult health care systems – *Nancy Anderson, Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program; Susan Colburn, Co-Director, Family Voices of Alabama; Cyndi Cortes, Children's Health System.* How can Alabama ensure a seamless continuity of care?

S. Reaching Alabama's immigrants: Innovative community programs offer new models of health care delivery for the growing Hispanic population – *Isabel Scarinci, UAB School of Medicine; Edwina Taylor, Cabala Valley Health Care.* In the absence of broader policy solutions, the patchwork approach is saving lives.

T. Ready or not, here we come! Preparing for the "senior boom" – *Robyn James, Director, State Health Insurance Assistance Program and Senior Medicare Patrol, and Julie Miller, Programs Division Chief, Ala. Dept. of Senior Services.* As Alabama's population ages, how will our health care system keep pace?

2:15 Closing plenary

"Where do we go from here?" *Dr. Sara Rosenbaum, Chair, Dept. of Health Policy, George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services.*

3:00 Adjourn